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THE CITIZEN

Devoted to the Interests of the Mountain People

Knowledge is power—and the way to keep up with modern knowledge is to read a good newspaper.

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A Disgraceful Ending

The outrageous tactics which thwarted the will of the last congressional majority, the President and the people of the United States we trust may never be employed by that body again.

Unlimited debate in the Senate has had its day. It has served good purposes as well as bad ones in the past.

Unfortunately, at a critical time as now, its use has brought no little contempt upon our nation in the eyes of the world.

A Step Forward

In his second inaugural address President Wilson wisely seizes the opportunity to re-emphasize the great principles which lie at the basis of our national policies.

There is no turning back from our first principles; we seek nothing for ourselves that we do not ask for all mankind. Our highest hope still is to play the part of those who would fortify and establish peace throughout the world. "Fair dealing, justice, the freedom to live and be safe against organized wrong."

Thus far every step that has been taken has been taken because national dignity and rights made it inevitable. Every step that has been officially suggested has represented the alternative to abject surrender of national rights. Neither turning back nor standing still! Firm in the right as God gives us to see the right, we must go forward in courage and patience to the end—which is to be the beginning of a better time.

Field Day in Congress

Letter from Prof. L. V. Dodge

Washington, D. C.
March 1, 1917.

Readers of The Citizen:

According to the Calendar, spring is supposed to begin this morning. From the standpoint of us who are anxious to have the disgrace of the saloon taken away from our National Capitol, "the winter of our discontent" came to an end just upon the stroke of nine, last night. The House of Representatives had been in continuous session since eleven a. m., and most of the time was devoted to the District Prohibition Bill. For the last five and a half hours, I did not lose a minute from giving my closest attention to the battle royal. I wonder if I can give a little account of it, short enough that you will read it through, and long enough to seem real and somewhat as it does to us.

The Committee on District of Columbia, all majority favorable to the saloons. They have the House the prohibition bill which passed the Senate some time ago, with so many amendments attached as to practically spoil it, while making it possible for a minority to stave off all effective action until the Congress expires on March 4th. But the Committee on Rules, in spite of the efforts of its Chairman, undertook to get the House to adopt a program which would insure a final vote before they should adjourn last night. Their first proposition was to give each side two hours for debate, and to act on all the amendments, forty or so, by a single vote. The "wets" would not consent to this, and under the rulings of the Speaker who at least is not a "temperance crank," this program could not be forced through.

Then came the fight which will

be one of the landmarks in the history of the House. The Rules Committee got together and reported a rule that no other business should be in order until the House had acted upon the Senate bill, exactly as it came from that body, except a motion to refer it back to the Committee. The "drys" succeeded in carrying out this program; but the champions of the saloon died hard. By resorting to various parliamentary devices they consumed many valuable hours in what they could not fail to see would be a losing fight unless they could tire out the friends of temperance. As the combat deepened it had a strange fascination for me. It was humiliating to see men of sufficient political influence to be elected to Congress, obeying the behests of the rum power; coming to them through liquor lobbyists, messages from constituents interested in liquor manufacture and sale, or the beck of rum leaders on the floor.

In spite of the House's acceptance of the Rules Committee's report so drastic as to be called by some a "gag-rule" and by others "rough work," the sharp parliamentarians of the "wets" succeeded in getting ten long drawn out roll calls of the 435 members, each prolonged by a lot of obstructionists leaving the room and straggling in later, after the first calling of the list was completed. Several times the existence of a quorum present was questioned; and while the Speaker was counting on one side a lot of honorable(?) Congressmen on the other side of the hall would rush out, hoping that no majority would seem at that moment to be present, and consequently that no business could be transacted. When the result of viva voce vote was evident to every

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IN OUR OWN STATE

Developments of coal lands in Letcher County will be aided by the Louisville & Nashville railroad thru extensions and double tracking.

Kentucky was praised for its attitude toward the race problem by speakers at the semi-centennial anniversary celebration of Harvard University held in Washington, Friday.

Few Kentuckians participated in the inaugural parade in comparison with the number taking part in former ceremonies. Great crowds held their places ten hours in a cold March wind to witness the pageant.

The Third Kentucky Infantry, the Kentucky Hospital Company No. 1, accompanied by Brig. Gen. Roger Williams, commanding the First Kentucky Infantry Brigade, left El Paso for Louisville to be mustered out of the Federal service.

Col. W. D. Pickett Dies at Home

Near Lexington
Col. William Douglas Pickett, son of an old Virginia family, died Monday afternoon at his home near Lexington. Col. Pickett was a member of the noted "Texas Rangers" in the Mexican War and was a distinguished officer and engineer in the Civil War. He was the oldest living member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and was one of the principal engineers in the construction of the pikes between Lexington and Frankfort and Lexington and Danville.

Col. Pickett was 89 years old last October. His brother, Maj. George E. Pickett, 92 years old, is his only surviving relative.

Funeral services were held at Christ Church Cathedral Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Burial took place in Lexington Cemetery.

Bob Birdwell of Camp Branch in Letcher County, Killed

Particulars of the assassination of Bob Birdwell of Camp Branch, Letcher County, while walking along the public road in Lucastown, Saturday evening, are lacking. The two shots aimed at Birdwell emanated from a barn situated a few paces from the public road and those who heard the shots believe the weapon was an old-fashioned rifle.

\$3,000,000 Oil Company Formed

With their main office at Irvine, a combination of oil men from five states was formed under the name of the Oklahoma-Kentucky Oil Company. This is said to be the strongest company yet formed to operate in the Kentucky oil fields. The charter of this new company was secured under the laws of the state of Delaware and is capitalized at \$3,000,000. They have under lease at present more than 50,000 acres. They will begin effective operations very soon. They are anticipating the purchase of a very large acreage of good, productive wells. This company will install a refinery.

Farm Conditions in Eastern Kentucky

Farm work in Eastern Kentucky is progressing slowly, due to continuous bad weather.

So far, little plowing has been done, with very little fall plowing, and farmers who are determined to put out record breaking crops this year are making slow progress.

An effort is being made this year to induce farmers of the mountains to revert again to wheat culture. Wheat Growers' Associations are planned for several mountain counties.

At this time, flour is selling in the country districts at \$11 and \$11.50 a barrel and dealers believe it will go considerably higher at once.

Irish Potato seed, owing to its scarcity, will prevent many mountain people planting as large areas as they expected. Good seed can not be obtained for less than \$4.50 a bushel. It was generally planned to plant an unusually large crop this season.

Jackson Block Coal Company Organized and Will Increase Output Capacity

The Jackson Block Coal Company (Continued on Page Five)

GERMAN CRISIS ACTION DELAYED

President Awaits Action of Legal Advisers.

CLOTURE RULE FIGHT ON

Puts Before the Senate Responsibility For Changing Rules of Special Session So Filibustering Can Not Prevent Action by Congress.

Washington, March 6.—While the senate Democrats are caucusing on a program for the special session, which may resolve itself into a prolonged fight over the cloture rule demanded by President Wilson, the president himself has postponed further action in the German situation pending a decision by his legal advisers on whether he has power to arm American merchantmen in spite of the failure of congress to pass a resolution conferring such authority.

A determination to arm the merchantmen, if a legal way to do so can be found, was generally apparent.

The president had placed squarely before the senate the responsibility for changing its rules during the special session, so that filibustering by a small group of senators can not prevent action by congress. In the meantime he is preparing to take such steps as he can to meet the crisis and defend American rights. In his inaugural address he declared "we stand firm in armed neutrality."

While the arming of merchantmen is the step most considered, it is pointed out that the president has the right to convoy American vessels. This course has been opposed by the navy department, however, principally for strategic reasons.

Another step suggested is that the shipping board take over American merchantmen, arm them as naval auxiliaries, and send them abroad.

The president has been inclined to believe that certain old statutes still in force might prevent him from supplying guns to merchantmen, but some of his advisers hold that a broader and truer interpretation of these laws will show that they have no application to the present situation.

Another name has been added to the list of senators who signed a manifesto in the closing hours of the session declaring they favored the armed neutrality bill and would have voted for it if given the opportunity. Senator Lippitt of Rhode Island telegraphed to Senator Weeks asking that his name be affixed.

The special session of the senate, called primarily to pass upon appointments to office, begin to get down to business today.

Senator Owen, who has been the chief proponent of a limited debate rule for many years, is prepared to bring the subject of cloture before the caucus and thirty-three senators, most of them Democrats, have signed an agreement to support the rule he proposes.

If the caucus decides to stand behind this proposal and make it the chief issue of the session, the senate may spend the summer in Washington instead of disposing of its work in a few days, as usual. Many senators who have participated in various such fights in the past believe it would be more difficult to get the senate agree to a limited debate rule than it would be to get a declaration of war against Germany or to pass the armed neutrality bill that died Sunday, because the rules say a senator can not be taken from the floor when he wishes to keep on talking.

ORDER AVIATOR SPIES SHOT

Sentries Ordered to Shoot to Kill Aviators Flying Over Fortifications.

San Francisco, March 6.—Instructions to "shoot to kill" any aviator flying over fortifications in San Francisco bay were given sentries by Col. Richmond P. Davis, commanding officer of the coast defense of San Francisco.

Orders had already been issued prohibiting aviators flying over the fortifications. They have not been obeyed, according to Colonel Davis.

"I'm tired of temporizing and it will mean death to the next man who attempts such a flight."

Bandits Got \$100.

Chicago, March 6.—Two bandits entered the office of Merriam & Co., loan agents, in a big office building in Michigan avenue, bound the woman cashier hand and foot, forced her to tell where the money was and escaped with \$100.

Trains Under Military Control.
Copenhagen, March 6.—Kaiser Wilhelm has issued a proclamation to the German empire announcing the railway systems now are under military control, according to advices from Berlin.

ARREST GERMAN FOR BOMB PLOT

Allege Plan to Blow Up Munition Plants.

OTHER ARRESTS EXPECTED

Police Had Received Rumors That Bombs Were to Be Sent to President Wilson—Man's Room Was Used as Laboratory.

Hoboken, N. J., March 6.—An alleged plan to blow up munition plants, engaged on contracts for the allies, is believed to have been uncovered here by the authorities with the arrest of Fritz Kolb, a German.

The police said they found in Kolb's room two bombs, which, according to rumors that had reached them, were to be sent to President Wilson.

After a preliminary investigation, however, they announced themselves as convinced that the plans of the alleged plotters had to do entirely with destroying war supplies, and that no attack on the president's life was contemplated.

The police also said they had come into possession of information which might help them in solving the Black Tom (N. J.) explosion and the destruction of the Kingsland (N. J.) plant of the Canadian Car and Foundry company, in which large munition supplies for the enemy were blown up.

Four other men were questioned by the authorities. Chief of Police Hayes of this city said they were friends of Kolb, but that he was convinced they knew nothing of the alleged plot.

"We are following leads which may result in additional arrests at any time," Chief Hayes declared. "We are co-operating with the New York police and the neutrality squad of the collector of the port of New York. All of us have been working on this for several weeks."

Kolb was found in a small hotel opposite the piers of the Hamburg-American line. His room, it was asserted here, bore the appearance of having been used as a laboratory. Besides the two bombs, the police said they found brass and copper tubing resembling that used in ships. The bombs were made of this material. There also were a flask of black powder, bottle containing gasoline, benzene and alcohol; tools, trinitrotoluol and black disc powder. Experts from the New York detective bureau said the disc powder was new to them, but they believed it was similar to some used in Germany.

The bombs, the experts declared, were of a new type and had slow fuses. The explosive content has not yet been identified.

The workmanship of the bombs, the police said, indicated ingenuity and skill. They were wrapped in a shirt which Kolb, they declared, admitted was his.

Kolb denied that he had anything to do with making the bombs, but said, according to the police, that his room was used for that purpose by a man he knew as "Karl," whom he met in a saloon. He declared he did not know the man's present whereabouts.

Kolb was born in Cologne, Germany, he said, and came to this country shortly after the war began, working his way on a Standard Oil steamer. He also made several trips between this country and Mexico, he said, but not recently.

Food and Fuel Dealers Indicted.

New York, March 6.—The federal grand jury which has for several months been investigating the high cost of food and fuel, returned three indictments. Judge Van Fleet issued bench warrants for the arrests of a large dealers whose identity was not revealed, as the indictments were sealed.

Five Firemen Killed.

Detroit, Mich.—Five firemen were killed and three others injured, one of whom may die, in a fire which early swept through two five-story business buildings on Woodward avenue. The killed and one of the injured were caught under a mass of timber and twisted steel when three of the lower floors of one of the buildings collapsed within 30 minutes after the fire started, shortly before 2 a. m. Two firemen were thrown from a ladder to the side walk, from the third floor.

Second Shock Felt.

Knoxville, Tenn.—Knoxville experienced its second earthquake shock within a week. Windows were shaken and buildings rocked, but no serious damage resulted.

The largest part of Mexico consists of an elevated plateau, with mountains on the east and west. This plateau is of volcanic origin.

WORLD NEWS

Austria has finally decided to uphold the submarine policy of her ally, Germany, but she does not favor its applications to the merchant ships of neutral nations. She shows a desire to continue on good terms with the United States if possible.

The legislative body of the Republic of China has voted to follow the lead of the United States and break diplomatic relations with Germany. The president of this republic, however, opposes that policy and has withheld his sanction.

Bulgaria, the faithful ally of Germany, has recalled her minister representing her in the United States. This may prevent the visit of the queen of that nation, who has expressed a strong desire to come to our country and study our life and institutions.

The English armies have continued to make gains against the Germans on the French frontier of the war and against the Turks in Asia Minor. The Germans are taking new positions, perhaps preparatory to the spring campaign.

The taking of gold from an incoming vessel by the authorities of the Argentine Republic, suggests the suspicion which exists of German plots in South America. The gold was consigned to a German bank in Buenos Ayres, which is a branch of a bank in Germany. It was thought the money was destined to a use not favorable to the republic.

President Wilson has sent copies of his inaugural address to the nations of the world. It contains a clear-cut and forceful expression of the attitude of the United States toward world problems. It asserts the right of nations to manage their own affairs, exalts a government by the people and defends the free use of the seas.

An election for president of Mexico is near at hand. The New Constitution provides for the details. It is a requirement that every citizen must vote or pay a penalty. Election occurs on Sunday in Mexico as in Continental Europe. It is expected that Carranza will secure the election.

The discovery of Germany's plan to stir up opposition to the United States in Mexico and Japan, in case the submarine blockade of England was thwarted, has been the leading item of news for the week. The foreign minister of Germany admitted writing the letter which was taken by secret service men of the United States and defended his act. Perhaps the disclosure will be enough to defeat the purpose in writing it.

President Wilson has declared his intention of arming American merchant vessels in order to protect the life and property of our people. Authority of Congress was denied him by the filibuster of eleven members of the Senate who took advantage of the rule that no bill can come to a vote as long as anyone desires to speak. The sentiment of the Senate, the House and the country at large, is back of the President and a special session of Congress will doubtless give him the authority desired.

SAYS MEXICO WILL FIGHT U.S.

German Press Declares Carranza Will Fight America.

Berlin, March 6.—Mexico will begin hostilities against the United States at once, if war breaks out between the United States and Germany, a portion of the German press believes.

General Carranza will act upon his own initiative and without any urging from Berlin, the Vossische Zeitung declares. And, that newspaper adds, Cuba and the Philippines may decide to make common cause with Mexico on the ground that the United States has inflicted serious wrongs on them.

Potato Shortage in England.

London, March 6.—Captain Bathurst, the food controller's spokesman in the house of commons, predicted in reply to questions that every one would have to go without potatoes in the late spring and early summer. He said there was an unprecedented shortage not only in the United Kingdom, but throughout the world.